

Keeping in Touch

News and notes from
the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

OCTOBER 1991

UFMCC Works to End Racism

FOR Fund Progresses

The Fund For Overcoming Racism (FOR), UFMCC's only scholarship fund specifically for minority students, made much progress at General Conference XV in Phoenix, AZ.

An offering of \$1,839 was received for the fund, and four of the fund's five trustees were able to meet for the first time.

During General Conference, trustees also met with members from several countries. They were enlightened about many sensitive issues that are particular to some countries and not to others. With this in mind, the trustees were able to build general guidelines for the Application process. The Applications are available in English at this time; plans are in place to provide the applications in Spanish. The hope is that eventually they will be available in French, German and other languages as well.

While the application states that the scholarship is to cover tuition for Orientation to MCC Pastoring, the trustees found that in some cases tuition is not the barrier that needs to be overcome. If you feel that assistance from the FOR Fund would enhance your chances of attending Orientation and the funds are needed for related expenses, such as



FOR Fund trustees who met for the first time at General Conference XV are, from left, Ms. Irene Travis of Lambertville, NJ; Mr. George Padilla of Los Angeles, CA; Mr. John Fowler of Victoria, Australia; and Rev. Gary Wilson of Portland, OR.

transportation or room and board, please submit your request along with the recommendations of your pastor and District Coordinator.

The FOR Fund was established in March 1990 with the long-term goal of providing scholarships for ethnic/racial minorities to pursue their educational goals in many areas. At this time the FOR Fund is prepared to meet its short-term goal of providing partial schol-

arships to racial minority students to attend Orientation to MCC Pastoring.

To request an application or to make contributions please write: UFMCC - FOR Fund, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029 USA. This scholarship fund operates solely on contributions from concerned churches, groups and individuals. Your prayers and generous donations are appreciated. □

Doors Open for DPOC

General Conference XV broke new ground by having a forum on racism. The forum was part of the regular business of conference, so hundreds of people attended.

"General Conference XV: I have opened a door' meant just that for the Department of People of Color (DPOC)," said Rev. La Paula Turner, DPOC executive director. "For the first time ever as a conference, people were willing to sit together -- black, brown, red, yellow and white -- and explore the dynamics of oppression and how UFMCC can dismantle racism."

The forum began with definitions of racism. The heart of the forum was discussion in small groups. The forum closed with a liturgy titled "Process Toward Harmony."

Responses to the forum varied. "For some white people, it was hard if they have never seriously exercised their consciousness about their own racism," Rev. Turner said. "For some white people it was a place to recognize the need to deal with the 'color' in their biological families. For others, people of color and white, it was refreshing and challenging to have a base to develop new workshops where people can become conscientized." □

(See related stories, pg.3)

Happy 23rd Birthday, UFMCC!

Please remember the Benevolence Fund in the month of October.

Eastern Canadian DC Focuses on God, Wins Rights

By Rev. Kittredge Cherry

The first international lesbian couple to be recognized under the Canadian Charter is Eastern Canadian District Coordinator Lydia Segal, a citizen of South Africa, and Rev. Susan Mabey, pastor of Christos MCC in Toronto.

After 18 months of deliberation, the Canadian government issued the work permit to Ms. Segal in March based on her rights as the spouse of a Canadian citizen. Two months later she was elected district coordinator.

"The journey for me started when I learned to start telling the truth," Ms. Segal said. "I try to live my life so that if I can't shout it from the hilltops, I won't do it."

Ms. Segal recalled praying about the work permit as she



Ms. Lydia Segal

considered whether to run for district coordinator. "I said to God, 'That's easy. If you want me to do it, you'll get me the work permit.'"

As district coordinator, she is working to make God the center of her efforts. "I'm not wanting to bring people into MCC. I'm trying to bring us into the community," she said. "The focus is God. The focus isn't to increase our numbers. The fallout will be that our numbers increase because if we're teaching by example, people are going to be drawn to us."

She is concerned that large churches can lack intimacy, so she plans to encourage the development of "home cell groups" throughout her district. Each group would include people who meet regularly in each other's homes for prayer, Bible study, discussion, and social time.

Ms. Segal grew up in Cape Town, South Africa. She was raised by her Jewish father in

the Catholic tradition of her mother. "My father identified as a Jew, but he was the best Christian I ever met," she said. She moved to the United States in 1978 in order to study mind control, but soon realized that "I'm not in control -- God is." She joined MCC in 1980 in Boulder, CO. She moved to Canada in 1986 and lived there illegally for the first four years.

In addition to her work with UFMCC, Ms. Segal is setting up a foundation named after her father, the Lou Segal House. It will offer housing to people in medical crisis and their families and friends. It will also provide food and cooking instruction for HIV+ people.

Ms. Segal's long-term dream is to return to South Africa. "I want to take MCC there," she said. □

St. Luke's Plants Peace Pole

St. Luke's MCC in Jacksonville, FL, became the first MCC to plant a Peace Pole.

The pole stands at the center of the "Peace Garden" that was dedicated Sept. 8 as part of the celebration of Rev. Frankye White's third anniversary as pastor of the church. The garden was dedicated to Rev. White and her spouse, Ms. Lori Sinnett.

Peace Poles come from the Peace Pole Project, an organization that promotes peace by encouraging churches, schools, groups and individuals to plant peace poles all over the world. More than 65,000 Peace Poles have been planted in 84 countries. The poles have "May peace prevail on earth" inscribed on them in many different languages.

St. Luke's MCC chose English, Aramaic, Hebrew, Navajo, Spanish and sign language. The church raised money for the pole by selling "peace popcorn" and "peace donuts" after church on Sundays.

St. Luke's also has an Excel Team now. Excel of the Lamb was approved as an Excel Team at General Conference XV. □

UFMCC Upsets Orthodox

UFMCC's dialogue with the National Council of Churches is one reason that the Greek Orthodox Church suspended participation in the National Council of Churches (USA) in June.

Dialogue with the Episcopal Church was also suspended.

UFMCC was not named when the decision was first announced, but the September issue of *Orthodox Observer*, the official Greek Orthodox newsletter, says, "The Synod acted to sever ties at its June 6 meeting following a review of recent developments in those bodies, among them the ordination of a lesbian in Washington, D.C. by the Episcopalians, published claims of an Episcopal bishop that the Apostle Paul may have been homosexual, consideration by the NCC of the admission of a homosexual church, the UFMCC, and other 'liberal leanings' of the mainline Protestant churches comprising the NCC."

Archbishop Iakovos, primate of the Greek Orthodox Churches of North and South America, was scheduled to meet with representatives of both groups in early September to discuss these issues. "It's a sad thing that the Orthodox Church is cutting itself off from the ecumenical movement," said Rev. Elder Troy Perry, founder of UFMCC. □



Keeping in Touch is a monthly publication of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. We are a church of the lesbian and gay community, open to all. Our mission is to call people to new life through the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ, confront injustice through Christian social action, and create a community of healing and reconciliation.

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Churches and Clergy Can Benefit from Sabbaticals

By Rev. Jim Burns

A sabbatical is a focused program of study normally granted after five to seven years of continuous service in one place. While the concept is most familiar in academic settings, it is becoming increasingly common in churches. Several MCC clergy have taken or are beginning to plan for sabbatical leaves.

I believe that sabbaticals can be of great benefit to clergy. The change of pace and scenery provides rest (do plan to go away!), and the study program offers a chance to develop new skills for ministry. Nevertheless, the true rationale for sabbaticals is their benefit to the churches who grant them. They are an investment in future ministry. The timing and content of sabbatical leaves should depend on the needs of the church.

Reactions from colleagues to my plans for a three month sabbatical this spring ranged from "Are you crazy? I would never leave my church for that long a period!" to "You are so smart to do this!" (the later comment, I'm happy to report, came from Rev. Troy Perry, UFMCC founder). Frequently, other clergy have asked how they might get approval for and plan a successful program. What follows are some insights I have learned from my sabbatical process as pastor of MCC New Haven, CT.

When should I begin planning my sabbatical?

Ideally, several years in advance. Boards are more likely to approve leaves if the time frame is distant. Also, when the day finally arrives, the congregation has had enough time to get used to the idea.

When we signed our last multi-year contract in 1987, we stated that I would have earned a three to six month sabbatical to be taken sometime between calendar years 1990-1992, at a time mutually agreeable between myself and the board, and with a program of study to be approved by the board. This language gave us flexibility and definition, while giving the board a sense that they had retained some control.

When is the right time to take a sabbatical?

When each of the following is true:

1) You have designed a study program which clearly will benefit the church.

Sabbaticals are not the time to pursue purely personal interests. Nor are they extended vacations or cures for impending burnout. (What happens when you return, and six months later are stressed out again? Clergy need to learn to manage stress in their work situations.) Because the church is investing money and staff time in this project, they deserve to see how it will benefit them.

MCC Stories Sought

Ms. Candace L. Chellew, a member of All Saints MCC in Atlanta, GA, is compiling a book on the gay and lesbian Christian experience, particularly as it relates to UFMCC worldwide.

"I hope to collect stories for the next year, then spend another year compiling the book and shopping for a publisher," she said.

Ms. Chellew is especially interested in "how you may have turned away from God and why you came back and what life is like for you today."

She asks that submissions be sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to her at P.O. Box 1251, Decatur, GA 30031-1251, USA. □

My project was to visit several MCC's which have grown from the size we are currently (100 people, one full-time staff person, one service in rented space) to another stage (250-350 people, multistaff, multiservice, owning a building). I interviewed pastors, staff, layleaders and district personnel; asking how those transitions can be made smoothly. I attended meetings, and observed how a larger church operates. I expected to return with new models for MCC ministry in mind, and concrete strategies to help move forward.

2) The church is spiritually and structurally strong enough to function healthily in your absence.

At the time we put the sabbatical in my contract, MCC New Haven could not have handled my being away so long a period. The church had to grow into that possibility. If it had not, I would have delayed the leave.

Smaller churches may not be in a position to afford the prolonged absence of their pastors. Clergy need to respect this reality.

3) When you have the self-confidence to allow the church to function healthily in your absence.

Many clergy have the "need to be needed" and may feel threatened if the church can do without them, even for a few months. The truth is, the smoother things go in your absence, the better it reflects on the quality of your leadership.

There is no perfect time of the year to be away. I chose late spring and summer, to be back in time for fall planning. I also scheduled a week in the middle to return. This was helpful by allowing a chance to see people and tie up some loose ends.

Be sure to keep in close touch while you are away with a few key people (parish administrator and secretary), and send postcards to everyone you can think of. Don't panic the first time something happens differently than you would have handled it. Trust that God has valuable lessons for you and for the church.

I am writing this while on sabbatical. So far, everything is going better than expected. The first month I was away, we tied our attendance record. The team I left in place is providing excellent leadership. I hear that the church is gaining a new sense of ownership, as well as an appreciation for all that I do. When I return with new ideas I have learned, and combine them with the empowerment the church has given itself, I can foresee us looking back on this time as the best step we ever took.

For more information on sabbaticals, contact: Rev. Jim Burns, c/o MCC New Haven, P.O. Box 1273, New Haven, CT. 06505; (203) 777-9808. □

Prayers

General Council will be meeting October 9-15 in Los Angeles, CA. Prayers are requested that God may bless and direct them in their work.

Rev'd Lloyd Hewitt, pastor of **Free Spirit Community Church** in Ontario, Canada, had a serious heart attack August 26 and was hospitalized for two weeks.

Rev. Reid Christiansen, pastor of **First MCC of Atlanta**, GA, was treated for cancer four years ago and recently had a recurrence.

Rev. Katie Cassidy, clergy on staff at **Oasis MCC** in Phoenix, AZ, requests prayers for the recent death of her father.

The father of **Rev. Danny Ray**, associate pastor at **MCC Toronto**, Canada, was recently hospitalized with cancer. □

Around The Fellowship

Praises

MCC Bournemouth has taken a major step toward becoming the first MCC church in the United Kingdom to own its own building. **Rev. Neil Thomas**, pastor, reported that the church was scheduled to exchange contracts on Sept. 20 for purchase of a 100-year-old Methodist church. The sale becomes final one month later. The building includes a sanctuary that seats 120 and a social hall.

MCC Edmonton, Canada, and **MCC Hamburg**, Germany, decided at General Conference XV to become twin congregations in much the same way that cities pair up with other cities in the world.

After a year and a half of ground work, the Northeast District officially launched an MCC church in northern New England on Sept. 21. **MCC in the Mountains** is an outgrowth of the former **Northern Lights MCC** and focuses its ministry along the Vermont/New Hampshire border. A ceremony was planned for Sept. 21 featuring the reception of the first official members, installation of **Rev. Fairbairn Powers** as pastor, installation of the first board, and participation by **Dr. Carter Heyward**, professor at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA.

MCC San Diego set aside July 28 to honor the women of its congregation and the lesbian community during Sunday worship. San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor sent special greetings with appreciation for all UFMCC women and particularly for **Rev. Donna Eubanks**, staff clergy at MCC San Diego.

MCC Dallas, TX, reports that on Monday, Sept. 9, the contractor officially began full-time work on the construction phase of its Cathedral of Hope.

Rev'd Michael Niece, pastor of **New Spirit MCC** of Cincinnati, OH, has been elected to the Board of Ecumenical Campus Ministries for Cincinnati and northern Kentucky.

MCC Dayton Parish in Dayton, OH, is participating in "Vineyard Ministries," which pairs a predominantly white congregation with a predominantly black one for dialogue and studies. □

Transitions

Congratulations to the following churches and their new pastoral leaders:

Joie de Vivre MCC in Baton Rouge, LA, has called **Rev. Nancy Horvath** as pastor. Rev. Horvath earned her M.Div. this spring from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, while completing her clergy training at **All God's Children MCC** in Minneapolis, MN. Since June, she has served as interim pastor in the Minneapolis church.

Healing Water MCC in Hot Springs, AR, has called **Ms. Susan Higgins** to its pastoral position. Ms. Higgins comes from **MCC Albuquerque**, NM, where she completed her clergy training. She is now working on her application for initial licensure.

MCC Boston, MA, has called **Rev'd Tim Koch** as pastor. He is a transfer candidate from the United Methodist Church. A member of MCC Boston since 1989, he is a doctoral candidate at Boston University School of Theology. He will probably begin pastoral duties in October.

Emmanuel MCC in Albuquerque, NM, has called **Rev. Donna Lockridge** as pastor. Her resignation as pastor of **MCC Amarillo**, TX, becomes effective Sept. 30.

Student clergy **Mary Hinsey** of **Agape' MCC** in Fort Worth, TX, has begun an interim pastorate at **Church with a Vision MCC** in Longview, TX.

Student clergy **Janet Parker** of **MCC of the Resurrection** in Houston, TX, began her interim pastorate at **Dawn of Faith MCC** in Houston, TX, on Sept. 8.

Rev'd Tom Barth was installed as interim pastor of **Christ the Redeemer MCC** in Evanston, IL, on Aug. 3. He is transfer clergy from the United Methodist Church.

Rev. Jim Becker has been named pastoral leader of **MCC Gulfcoast** in Biloxi, MS. □

Top 20 Tithes - August 1991

1.	Church/Holy Spirit MCC, Ft. Lauderdale	US\$ 2,755.00
2.	MCC San Francisco, San Francisco	1,882.80
3.	MCC Toronto, Toronto, ONT	CAN\$ 1,812.91
4.	MCC of the Resurrection, Houston	1,723.76
5.	MCC Washington, D.C.	1,714.75
6.	First MCC of Kansas, Wichita	1,694.83
7.	First MCC of Atlanta, Atlanta	1,452.41
8.	MCC Long Beach, Long Beach	1,445.40
9.	Joy MCC, Orlando	1,242.63
10.	Holy Covenant MCC, Hinsdale	1,222.71
11.	MCC of the Rockies, Denver	1,000.62
12.	King of Peace MCC, St. Petersburg	914.95
13.	MCC in the Valley, N. Hollywood	876.57
14.	St. Luke's MCC, Jacksonville	869.00
15.	Agape' MCC, Ft. Worth	855.95
16.	River City MCC, Sacramento	848.69
17.	MCC New York, New York City	835.81
18.	MCC Austin, Austin	769.48
19.	Church/Holy Spirit MCC, Des Moines	734.57
20.	Church of the Trinity MCC, Sarasota	628.82

(These figures reflect the 10 percent of each local church's income that is sent to Fellowship headquarters.)

Top 20 Per Capita - August 1991

1.	Resurrection Chapel MCC, Torrence	US\$ 133.67
2.	Church/Holy Spirit MCC, Des Moines	54.82
3.	Redeemer MCC of Flint, Flint	44.61
4.	Sisterspirit, Portland	38.72
5.	Calvary MCC, Redwood City	31.69
6.	Markens Liljer MCC, Kobenhavn, Denmark	DM 31.59
7.	Holy Covenant MCC, Hinsdale	30.57
8.	New Covenant MCC, Walnut	24.74
9.	MCC of the Disciples, Washington DC	24.43
10.	MCC Johnson County, Lenexa	24.24
11.	First MCC of Atlanta, Atlanta	22.91
12.	MCC Rockville, Rockville	22.69
13.	Whitewater Valley MCC, Richmond	22.60
14.	MCC New York, New York City	21.21
15.	All Saints MCC of Atlanta, Atlanta	20.35
16.	MCC in Charlottesville, Charlottesville	20.21
17.	First MCC of Kansas, Wichita	19.46
18.	MCC Living Spring, Eureka Springs	18.59
19.	Church of the Resurrection MCC, Chicago	18.20
20.	MCC of the Living Faith, St. Louis	17.86

UFMCC is Ending Racism by...

Re-examining Racism's Roots

General Conference XV passed a binding resolution recommending that every UFMCC church declare a Day of Commemoration one year from now, during October 1992.

This resolution, which was sponsored by Department of People of Color, relates to the the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first landing in the Western Hemisphere. As the resolution states, "There have been acts of genocide, ecocide, economic exploitation and rape of human and mineral resources, for the indigenous people of the world whose subsequent legacy has been the perpetuation of paternalism and racism into our culture and times."

The Governing Board of the National Council of Churches adopted a similar resolution. It notes that the Church generally accompanied and legitimized this conquest and exploitation, and it calls for reflection and action to bring forward the silenced interpretation of the 1492 event. □

Leadership Conferences Set

Two excellent leadership conferences will be offered to all UFMCC members in August 1992 in Phoenix, AZ.

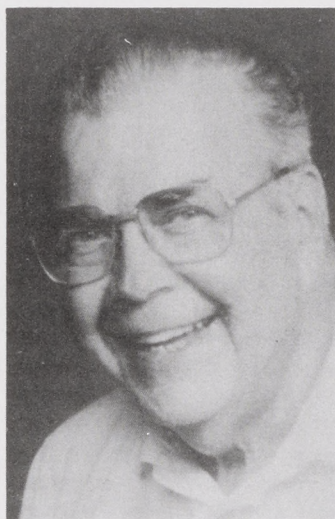
The Church Leadership Conference, featuring Dr. Lyle E. Schaller, will be Aug. 25-27, and the Department of People of Color (DPOC) Leadership Conference, featuring Bishop Leontyne T.C. Kelly, will be Aug. 28-30.

DPOC has just announced that the keynote speaker at its leadership conference will be Bishop Kelly, the first black woman bishop of a major U.S. denomination. She is a retired bishop in the United Methodist Church, and is a visiting professor at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA.

Bishop Kelly will address the conference in plenary on Saturday morning, Aug. 29, and will speak at the banquet that night. This conference is open both to people of color and to white people healing racism.

Dr. Schaller, a leading consultant on church organization and development, will speak at the Church Leadership Conference, which is designed for both clergy and lay leaders. He has written or edited numerous books with a total of more than 1 million copies in print.

He will speak in five plenary sessions on the following topics: "Contemporary Trends Af-



Dr. Lyle Schaller

fecting Congregation Life," "The 'Niche Church' has Replaced the Geographical Church," "Pitfalls in the Road Ahead of Us," "The Post-1969 Generation: A New and Different Generation," and "Who is Your Competition Today? Tomorrow?" There will also be workshops designed for churches of various sizes.

For more information on either of these conferences, please write or call the UFMCC Headquarters Offices: 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029, USA; (213) 464-5100. □

Hosting Local Workshops

Harvest MCC of Denton, Texas, recently hosted a Prejudice Reduction Workshop that was attended by 45 people from nine churches. As the group reflected on its diversity, they also discovered that they included people not only from the United States but Canada, Argentina, and the Philippines also.

The workshop, led by facilitators from the National Coalition Building Institute, helped them identify and share their experiences of oppression. Through being in touch with their own feelings they became more sensitive to how others feel when they are oppressed. They also learned techniques to diffuse situations where people are discriminating against us or others. All in all, their consciousness was raised concerning a number of different types of discrimination.

If other churches wish to know more about this workshop, please contact Harvest MCC, 5900 S. Stemmons, Denton, TX 76205. □

White People Heal Racism

Significant strides were made at General Conference XV by White People Healing Racism (WPHR). The WPHR Steering Committee worked closely with the Department of People of Color (DPOC) Executive Committee on the Forum on Racism. Two "Racism 101" workshops were held. More than \$1,000 was raised for WPHR with a successful "Soc Hop" Dance. Thirty percent of that money is designated to DPOC.

At the WPHR business meeting, the following people were elected to the Steering Committee: Ms. Sue Read, Chair, Ms. Jean Strickland, Austin, TX; Ms. Judy Kiser, Norfolk, VA and Ms. Hilary Clinton, of Birmingham, England all for two year terms. Rev. Polly Ireland of Chattanooga, TN continues her term for another year. Ms. Kiser, the first chair of WPHR, concluded her term as chair.

The new Steering Committee, in recognition of the need for an expanded network, decided to create two new positions to include Rev. Lew Broyles of Ft. Worth, TX and Ms. Barbara Olejniczak, Glenlyon, Australia. They also brainstormed and concluded that future actions would have a more international and less ethnocentric approach to education and organization, in order to develop and empower local church and district WPHR leadership. They will encourage a growing white attendance at the DPOC Conference in 1992.

For more information about WPHR, write Ms. Read at UFMCC Headquarters or call (213) 256-7691. □

Islamic Scholar Visits

An Islamic scholar from Bangladesh met with UFMCC leaders Sept. 9.

Dr. P.I.S. Mustafizur Rahman, professor at the Department of Islamic History and Culture at Dhaka University in Dhaka, was in the U.S. as a participant in a program sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency.

Dr. Rahman said his visit with UFMCC was scheduled because he requested to meet with unusual religious groups. He expressed great interest in gay and lesbian issues when he met with Rev. Elders Troy Perry and Don Eastman, Mr. Ravi Verma, and Rev. Kit Cherry.

"The Koran is silent on this issue," Dr. Rahman explained, although local custom has led to discrimination against lesbians and gay men, and they lead "very secret" lives in Bangladesh. □

Women's Secretariat Achieves Goals

The Women's Secretariat has achieved many of its initial objectives, and is now seeking input from the women of UFMCC.

At General Conference XV in Phoenix this year many of the objectives that had been set out were achieved with the Women's Forum, the Wall, workshops, and sharing. The Interim Steering Committee says it is now time for the committee to work through the rest of its mandate.

Between now and 1993 the committee is to "design a cost-effective structure and process for the implementation of the Women's Commission." However, the Interim Committee, cannot and does not want to develop the final Mission Statement, goals and structure without input from the women of UFMCC. Therefore, at this time they ask for your ideas and input. Here are the Interim Mission Statement and goals for discussion.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Women's Secretariat of UFMCC is to recognize the gifts and power that women contribute to the Fellowship and the World.

Goals

To that end the goals of the Secretariat are:

- 1) to provide a framework for all women to support, heal, nurture and empower one another, and
- 2) to recognize and work to eliminate all barriers to the full participation of women at the local church, district and fellowship levels.

Individual ideas and comments, as well as group ones, may be forwarded to either: Rev. Coni Staff, 354 Irwin Street, San Rafael, CA 94901 USA; or Ms. Judy Dale, 1300 Ambridge Drive, Louisville, KY 40207 USA. Please try to have responses in by December 15, 1991.

Pastors are asked to photocopy this information and distribute it to the women in their congregations.

Responses will be studied and a draft of the final mission statement, goals and structures will be distributed for feedback. The final mission statement, goals and structures will be presented to the women for final approval prior to presentation to General Conference XVI, 1993. □

In Memory

Mr. Carl Knitig

Mr. Carl Knitig, died September 15 of hepatitis-B. He was in his mid-50's.

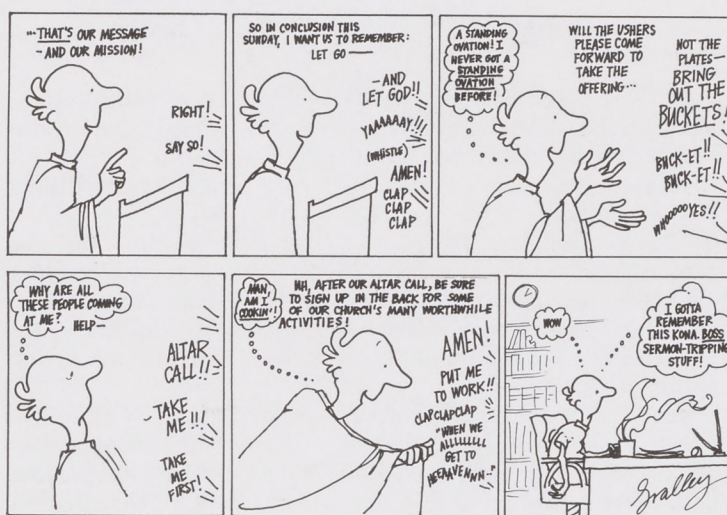
Mr. Knitig was the spouse of Rev. Don Magill-Knitig, pastor of New Life MCC in Tacoma, WA, for the last nine years. Mr. Knitig was very active in the MCC churches in Reno, NV; Pomona, CA; and Tacoma, where he founded the church newsletter. He was employed in a college admissions office.

A memorial service was planned for September 21, which would have been his birthday.

Mr. Knitig is survived by Rev. Magill-Knitig; his mother, Sylvia; two daughters and one son. Memorial donations may be made to the Memorial Fund at New Heart MCC, P.O. Box 953, Tacoma, WA 98401 USA.

What a Fellowship

by Jean Gralley



In Memory

Mr. Lee Bush

Lee Bush, 38, passed away due to complications from AIDS on September 6, in Washington, D.C. Mr. Bush was a long-term member of UFMCC.

On March 1, 1986, Mr. Bush left Los Angeles, CA, on foot, with the Great Peace March. After arriving in Denver, CO, he was sent to New York to work in the Peace March Office there, and helped coordinate getting the 500 marchers across country to Washington, D.C. where they arrived on November 15, 1986.

In early 1987 he moved to Washington where he staffed the office of the March on Washington for Gay & Lesbian Rights which took place in October of that year.

After that, Mr. Bush went to work for the Gay Rights National Lobby and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, traveling around the country getting people to sign up for the campaign to send mailgrams and letters to our elected representatives in Congress in support of issues related to gay and lesbian rights.

Mr. Bush leaves his mother, Leona Bush, and brother, Phillip Bush of Albany, GA, and his miniature schnauzer, Charlee.

Two memorial services were planned: Sept. 27 in Washington, D.C., and Oct. 6 in Los Angeles.

Mr. James W. Hohmann

Mr. James W. Hohmann, 37, died September 15 of complications related to AIDS.

Mr. Hohmann was the spouse of Rev. Robert Hogg, pastor of Christ the Redeemer MCC in Evanston, IL, for the last 13 years. During that period, he was active in MCC churches, including serving in the choirs and on the Board of Directors of MCC Detroit, MI, and Good Shepherd Parish MCC in Chicago, IL. He served on many committees of the Great Lakes District. Mr. Hohmann was a computer programmer.

A memorial service was planned for Sept. 21.

Mr. Hohmann is survived by Rev. Hogg; his father, Edward; and his brother, John. Memorial donations may be made to the Building Fund of Joy of Life MCC, P.O. Box 1161, North Chicago, IL 60064.